

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-4 have been cancelled.

1-4. (Cancelled)

Claim 5 has been amended as follows:

5           5.     (Currently amended)     A biventricular cardiac stimulation device comprising:

          a pulse generator ~~adapted~~ configured to interact respectively with ventricles of a heart to deliver stimulation pulses to each of the ventricles;

10           a control unit connected to the pulse generator ~~to operate~~ that operates the pulse generator to emit a stimulation pulse to a first-stimulated ventricle, followed by a VV time delay, followed by a stimulation pulse to a second-stimulated ventricle;

          an evoked response detector ~~adapted~~ configured to interact with the  
15           ventricles and having independent, first and second ventricular sensing channels ~~to~~ that detect ventricular evoked response in the respective ventricles, said evoked response detector searching for an evoked response following delivery of a stimulation pulse to said first-stimulated ventricle in an evoked  
20           response detection time window;

          said control unit setting said VV time delay to be shorter than said evoked response detection time window; and

          said evoked response detector closing said evoked response detecting time window, or discarding detections therein, in response to  
25           emission of the stimulation pulse to the second-stimulated ventricle during said evoked response detection time window following said first-stimulated ventricle.

          6.     (Previously presented)     A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 5, comprising an inhibiting unit that inhibits  
30           stimulation of said second-stimulated ventricle in response to detection, by said evoked response detector, of a sensed intrinsic cardiac event in said second-stimulated ventricle.

7. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 5 wherein said control unit sets said VV time delay to be less than 40 msec.

5 8. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 7 wherein said control unit sets said VV time delay in a range between 10 and 30 msec.

9. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 5 wherein said evoked response detector sets said evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be  
10 in a range between 40 and 100 msec.

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

10. (Currently amended) A method for biventricular cardiac stimulation comprising the steps of:

with an implanted [[a]] pulse generator, automatically delivering  
15 ~~adapted to interact respectively with ventricles of a heart to~~  
~~deliver stimulation pulses~~ respectively ~~to each of the ventricles~~  
~~of a heart;~~

automatically controlling operation of ~~a control unit connected to the~~  
~~pulse generator to operate~~ the pulse generator to emit a  
20 stimulation pulse to a first-stimulated ventricle, followed by a VV  
time delay, followed by a stimulation pulse to a second-  
stimulated ventricle;

with an implanted evoked response detector ~~adapted to interact with~~  
~~the ventricles and~~ having independent, first and second  
25 ventricular sensing channels, automatically detecting ~~to detect~~  
ventricular evoked response in the respective ventricles, ~~said~~  
~~evoked response detector~~ by searching for an evoked response  
following delivery of a stimulation pulse to said first-stimulated  
ventricle in an evoked response detection time window;

30 with said control unit, setting said VV time delay to be shorter than said  
evoked response detection time window; and

automatically causing said evoked response detector ~~closing to close~~  
said evoked response detecting time window, or ~~discarding to~~  
discard detections therein, in response to emission of the  
stimulation pulse to the second-stimulated ventricle during said  
evoked response detection time window following said first-  
stimulated ventricle.

Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

11. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~[[5]]~~ 10,  
comprising ~~an inhibiting unit that inhibits~~ stimulation of said second-stimulated  
ventricle in response to detection, by said evoked response detector, of a  
sensed intrinsic cardiac event in said second-stimulated ventricle.

Claim 12 has been amended as follows:

12. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~5~~  
~~wherein said control unit sets~~ 10 comprising setting said VV time delay to be  
less than 40 msec.

Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

13. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~7~~  
~~wherein said control unit sets~~ 12 comprising setting said VV time delay in a  
range between 10 and 30 msec.

Claim 14 has been amended as follows:

14. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~5~~  
~~wherein said evoked response detector sets~~ 13 comprising setting said  
evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be  
in a range between 40 and 100 msec.

Add the following new claims:

15. (New) A method as claimed in claim 12 comprising setting said  
evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be  
in a range between 40 and 100 msec.

16. (New) A method as claimed in claim 10 comprising setting said  
evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be  
in a range between 40 and 100 msec.